IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (Currently amended): An image data transmitting apparatus comprising: ~~means for encoding~~ an encoder configured to encode input image data; an ~~transmitting means for packetizing~~ a transmitting device configured to transmit encoded image data generated by the encoder, and including a packetizing unit configured to packetize the encoded image data ~~output from said encoding means~~ to produce plural data packets, and ~~transmitting data packets, the transmitting means comprising delay means for controlling~~ a delay unit configured to delay a transmission timing of each of the data packets by a delay time not less than a minimal transmission interval specific to the image data transmitting apparatus, ~~thereby~~ to transmit the data packets at intervals ~~longer that a predetermined value~~ corresponding to the delay time.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): The image data transmitting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said delay ~~means~~ unit controls the transmission timing based on a bandwidth of a network to be used for transmission of the data packets and a data size of the data packets.

Claim 3 (Currently amended): The image data transmitting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said transmitting ~~means~~ device comprises ~~means for storing~~ a buffer to store the encoded data to be transmitted, ~~the encoded data stored in said storing means being transmitted,~~ and ~~said image transmitting apparatus further comprising~~ which further comprises:

~~means for varying~~ a control unit configured to vary priorities of operations of ~~said encoding means~~ the encoder and ~~said transmitting means~~ the transmitting device according to a volume of data stored in ~~said storing means~~ the buffer.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): The image data transmitting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~said transmitting means~~ the transmitting device comprises ~~means for storing~~ a buffer to store the encoded data to be transmitted, ~~the encoded data stored in said storing means being transmitted,~~ and ~~said image transmitting apparatus further comprising~~ which further comprises:

~~means for varying~~ a control unit configured to vary a data storage size of ~~said storing means~~ the buffer according to an image size of the input image data.

Claims 5 and 6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Currently amended): An image data transmitting method comprising:

encoding input image data to produce encoded data; ~~and~~

packetizing the encoded data ~~and transmitting~~ to produce plural data packets[[,]];

delaying a transmission timing of each of the data packets by a delay time not less than a minimal transmission interval specific to a transmitting apparatus; and ~~being controlled thereby~~

transmitting the data packets at intervals ~~longer that a predetermined value~~ corresponding to the delay time.

Claim 8 (Original): The image data transmitting method according to claim 7, wherein the transmission timing is controlled based on a bandwidth of a network to be used for transmission of the data packets and a data size of the data packets.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): The image data transmitting method according to claim 7, wherein ~~said~~ the transmitting comprises storing in a buffer the encoded data~~, the stored encoded data being~~ to be transmitted, and ~~said method further comprising~~ which further comprises:

varying priorities of ~~operations of said~~ the encoding and ~~said~~ the transmitting according to a volume of stored data.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): The image data transmitting method according to claim 7, wherein ~~said~~ the transmitting comprises storing in a buffer the encoded data ~~in storing means, the stored encoded data being~~ to be transmitted, and ~~said method further comprising~~ which further comprises:

varying a data storage size of ~~said storing means~~ the buffer according to an image size of the input image data.

Claims 11 and 12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Currently amended): An image data transmitting apparatus comprising:

an encoder configured to encode input image data; and

a transmitter configured to packetize encoded data output from said encoder to produce plural data packets and transmit the data packets, the transmitter comprising a delay

device configured to ~~control~~ <u>delay</u> a transmission timing of each of the data packets <u>by a delay time not less than a minimal transmission interval specific to the image data transmitting apparatus,</u> ~~thereby~~ to transmit the data packets at intervals ~~longer that a predetermined value~~ <u>corresponding to the delay time</u>.

Claim 14 (Original): The image data transmitting apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said delay device controls the transmission timing based on a bandwidth of a network to be used for transmission of the data packets and a data size of the data packets.

Claim 15 (Currently amended): The image data transmitting apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said transmitter comprises a storage configured to store the encoded data, ~~the encoded data stored in said storage being~~ <u>to be</u> transmitted, and ~~said image transmitting apparatus further comprising~~ <u>which further comprises</u>:

a controller configured to vary priorities of operations of said encoder and said transmitter according to a volume of data stored in said storage.

Claim 16 (Currently amended): The image data transmitting apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said transmitter comprises a storage configured to store the encoded data, ~~the encoded data stored in said storage being~~ <u>to be</u> transmitted, and ~~said image transmitting apparatus further comprising~~ <u>which further comprises</u>:

a controller configured to vary a data storage size of said storage according to an image size of the input image data.

Claim 17 (Canceled).

Claim 18: (Currently amended) ~~The image data receiving apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:~~ An image data receiving apparatus comprising:

a receiver configured to receive encoded image data;

a storage configured to store the encoded image data received by said receiver;

a decoder configured to decode the encoded image data stored in said storage;

a controller configured to vary priorities of operations of said receiver and said decoder according to a volume of the image data stored in said storage; and

a second controller configured to vary a data storage size of said storage according to a size of the encoded image data.